

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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DANIEL SZAROLETA,

Plaintiff,

-against-

**ANSWER**

07 Civ. 7639 (DC)

METRO-NORTH COMMUTER RAILROAD,

Defendant.

-----X

Defendant, Metro-North Commuter Railroad (hereinafter "Metro-North"), by its attorney, Richard K. Bernard, General Counsel, as and for its answer to the complaint of the plaintiff, alleges as follows:

1. Denies knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph(s) 1 and 4 of the complaint and respectfully refers all questions of law and fact to judge and jury.
2. Admits the allegations contained in paragraph(s) 2 of the complaint.
3. Denies upon information and belief each of the allegations contained in paragraph(s) 3 of the complaint and refers all questions of law and fact to judge and jury, except admit that plaintiff was employed by defendant Metro-North at all relevant times.
4. Denies the allegations contained in paragraph(s) 5 and 7 of the complaint.
5. Denies upon information and belief each of the allegations contained in paragraph(s) 6 of the complaint and refers all questions of law and fact to judge and jury.

**AS AND FOR AN AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

6. As and for a first affirmative defense, or as a defense in mitigation of damages, the defendant claims that any injuries allegedly sustained by the plaintiff were caused, in whole or in part, by reason of the culpable conduct of the plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, defendant demands judgment dismissing the complaint, together with costs and disbursements and such other and further relief as to this Court seems just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York  
September 27, 2007

RICHARD K. BERNARD  
GENERAL COUNSEL

By: S/  
Ioana Wenchell (IW-4775)  
Associate Counsel  
Attorneys for Defendant  
347 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10017  
(212) 340-2203

TO: Michael Flynn, Esq.  
Law Office of Michael Flynn PLLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
1205 Franklin Avenue  
Garden City, NY 11530  
(516) 877-1234

STATE OF NEW YORK :  
: ss:  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK:

Laura Matthews, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I am not a party to the action, am over 18 years of age and reside in Bronx County, New York.

On September 27, 2007, I served a true copy of the annexed ANSWER and RULE 7.1 STATEMENT, with postage prepaid thereon, in a post-office or official depository of the U.S. Postal Service within the State of New York, addressed to the last known address of the addressee(s) as indicated below:

TO: Michael Flynn, Esq.  
Law Office of Michael Flynn PLLC  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
1205 Franklin Avenue  
Garden City, NY 11530  
(516) 877-1234

S/  
LAURA MATTHEWS

Sworn to before me this  
27th day of September, 2007

S/  
NOTARY PUBLIC